



LOS ANGELES COUNTY REGIONAL PARK AND OPEN SPACE DISTRICT

March 31, 2015

THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY REGIONAL PARK AND OPEN SPACE DISTRICT ANNOUNCES THE 2015 COUNTYWIDE COMPETITIVE GRANT PROGRAM

The Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District (District) announces the availability of approximately \$5,154,680 for the 2015 Countywide Competitive Grant Program. Applicants may apply for grant funding in one or both of the following program categories, and are strongly encouraged to demonstrate matching funding commitments of at least 25 percent. One goal of this program is to appropriately allocate all remaining funds for these categories from the Safe Neighborhood Parks Proposition A of 1992 and 1996.

Rivers and Streams

The available grant funding for the Rivers and Streams category is approximately \$4,262,543. The projects may consist of restoration, rehabilitation or acquisition of natural lands and the development of recreational resources along the Santa Clara, San Gabriel and Los Angeles rivers or their tributaries. In order to be eligible, recreational resources must be compatible with existing or restored natural habitat.

Projects that are eligible include, but are not limited to:

- Removal of exotic, non-native, vegetation and/or debris to return the river or tributary to its natural, self-maintaining, state;
- Enhancement of wildlife through habitat restoration;
- Planting of native species consistent with an undisturbed condition of the river or tributary;
- Stream realignment which restores the natural course of the river or tributary;
- Acquisition of natural lands that will provide for wildlife enhancement, restoration of the river or tributary, or development of a recreational facility that enhances public use or appreciation of the river or tributary without degrading natural values; or
- Development of new recreation facilities such as parks, trails or interpretive centers, which involve the public in the river or tributary and are compatible with existing or restored natural habitat.

Santa Monica Bay

The available grant funding for the Santa Monica Bay category is approximately \$892,136. Priorities will be given to multi-benefit projects that restore and improve the Santa Monica Bay by measurably reducing the toxicity of and/or pollutant load in urban runoff to the Bay. In accordance with Section 9 of Proposition A, funds shall be available for grants to public agencies and shall be expended only for capital outlay projects which meet one or more of the following criteria:

1. Protect public health in recreational waters; or
2. Preserve and enhance the ecological integrity of significant watersheds containing Significant Ecological Areas; or
3. Are Best Management Practices as defined in the Stormwater National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit for the County and approved by the Executive Officer of the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board; or
4. Reduce runoff into Santa Monica Bay where the runoff travels across lands that contribute large amounts of toxic pollutants to the storm drain system, or measurably reduce the toxicity of that runoff.

Capital outlay projects are defined to be any type of construction/acquisition project that will directly lead to the reduction of pollutants that enter Santa Monica Bay. Some examples of eligible projects include, but are not limited to the following:

- Diversion of storm drains to treatment facilities;
- Construction of treatment facilities to handle storm drain flows;
- Construction of sediment basins;
- Construction of debris fences in storm drain channels;
- Installation of runoff pollution control devices and instruments, such as infiltration basins, runoff enhancement devices, and catch basin screens.

The Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board Executive Officer will review and approve final proposal recommendations of the selection committee prior to any commitment for funding.

Proposals are due on or before June 3, 2015, by 12:00 p.m.

**Submit to:
Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District
510 S. Vermont Avenue, Room 230
Los Angeles, CA 90020**

Attn: Steven Chang

Available Funding: \$5,154,680.

Minimum Grant Request: \$15,000.

If there are no suitable proposals or if an insufficient number of proposals are received, the District reserves the right to award less than the available \$5,154,680.

- **Eligible Grant Applicants:** Public agencies; Conservancies; and qualified Non-profit organizations in partnership with Public agencies.
- **Proposal Requirements:** Included within the Application Manual for each Grant Program category.
- **Project Timeline:** Projects shall be completed within two years of the date of execution of the grant agreement. Project performance period extension beyond the two year limit will require approval from the District.
- **Changes to Project:** Due to the competitive nature of this program, once a project has been selected for funding, the District will not approve any change in the project that substantially affects the use, scope, capacity or service area of the project as presented in the application form.
- **Contact Person: Mr. Steven Chang**
Program Manager, Grants Section
Los Angeles County | Regional Park & Open Space District
510 S. Vermont Ave., Room 230 | Los Angeles, CA 90020
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For complete grant program information, please visit our website at <http://osd.lacounty.gov>.